

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 06557 221242Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----221243Z 065877 /43

P R 221235Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2941
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T LONDON 06557

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, JO, UK
SUBJECT: KING HUSSEIN CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN
SECRETARY OWEN

REFERENCE: LONDON 3788

1. KING HUSSEIN HAS SPENT THIS WEEK IN LONDON, WHERE HE HAS LUNCED WITH THE QUEEN. HE IS NOT EXPECTED TO SEE CALLAGHAN THIS TIME, BUT ON APRIL 20 FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN AND ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY WEIR CALLED ON HIM FOR HALF AN HOUR. IN SOMEWHAT HASTY BRIEFING TO EMBOFF ON EVE OF WEIR'S DEPARTURE FOR VISIT TO EGYPT AND SYRIA WITH OWEN, WEIR BRIEFED EMBOFF AS FOLLOWS: HUSSEIN MERELY RESTATED FAMILIAR POLICY POSITIONS. HE STILL DEFINITELY DOES NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF A JOINT JORDANIAN-PLO DELEGATION AT GENEVA, AND WONDERS WHY SADAT CONTINUES TO OPPOSE A PAN-ARAB DELEGATION. HE ASSUMES SADAT DOES NOT WANT SPECIFICALLY EGYPTIAN CONCERNS OPEN TO PALESTINIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE WORKING GROUPS. WEIR INFERRED THAT HUSSEIN THOUGHT SADAT IS GOING TOO FAR

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TOO FAST IN DISCUSSING THE CONTENT OF THE PEACE; HUSSEIN THINKS THAT SURELY IS FOR LATER DISCUSSION, SINCE WE HAVE NOT EVEN GOTTEN TO GENEVA YET. HUSSEIN ALSO AGAIN SAID HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT SADAT'S DOMESTIC POSITION.

2. HUSSEIN ALSO TOLD THE BRITISH THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT

VERY RECENTLY PLO REPRESENTATIVES HAD SHOWN SIGNS OF FLEXIBILITY ON THEIR HARD-LINE POSITIONS ABOUT REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA AND A SEPARATE MINI-STATE, AND HAD WANTED TO HAVE A TOP-LEVEL DISCUSSION WITH HIM BEFORE HE WENT TO WASHINGTON. HOWEVER. THERE HAD NOT BEEN ENOUGH TIME, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF ARAFAT'S TRIP TO MOSCOW.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE ADVENT OF PERES TO POWER IN ISRAEL, HUSSEIN THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE SOME ADVANTAGE IN HAVING AS PRIME MINISTER A MAN WHO WOULD CARRY GREATER AUTHORITY IF HE DECIDED TO GO FOR AN AGREEMENT.

4. WEIR COMMENTED THAT HUSSEIN SEEMED TO HAVE RECOVERED HIS "BOUNCE" AND SEEMED QUITE RELAXED.

SPIERS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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